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LB 401

measures that were taken were because the state cannot sustain a 15.1 percent increase in Medicaid spending for ever and ever and ever, nor a 7.6 percent increase in public assistance. So, we can't...it boils down to the old issue of spending and when do we spend enough and when do we grow state government to the point when these types of increases are considered major cuts in some people's vernacular. It's appropriate in the budget...and I don't want to get too far off of the issue of income taxes, but if we're going to talk about sustainability and we're going to talk about whether or not we can afford to do this, I guess we have to look a little bit at the budget. Of course, we do carry over this year approximately \$76 million, which as the report indicates and I never said otherwise, part of that didn't occur because an overestimation in the area of some of the expenditures in Health and Human Services along with some other items. The thought, the prevalent thought, for most of the members that have visited with me as I have worked on the appropriation process through the course of this year is to use that 76 million for one-time capital expenditures that don't build to the base of our budget that we might not be able to sustain. And for those that wish to, you can go through the one-time capital expenditure items and come up with an amount of around \$55 million that, in essence, that surplus of 76 million that we're going to carry over from the current biennium to the next biennium would relate to. I'm having drafted and I...not drafted, prepared and hopefully it will be here on the floor to answer some of the questions that Senator Beutler posed relative to how does this work, a scenario or a status where we take out the 100 million that is in the status now, part of the 200 million for state aid to local government that no one that I've talked to expects. When we started the session, we were looking at \$100 million, hopefully, at the beginning of the session, in additional state aid. Reduced that status 100 million and show the cost of the green copy of LB 401, the income tax, show the transfer...the nontransfer, actually what it would be of maintaining the cash reserve, that savings account portion of our budget. Leaving that at 40 million and seeing what that does to the bottom line, given if, in fact, we were to pass every A bill that we have before us, I think ultimately we may have to make some decisions on some of the A bills. We may have to make some of the decisions on the overall spending in the budget. But it seems to me that its